(b) and (c) In order to protect the interests of surplus employees, VSS was offered as per Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) scheme dated 5.5.2000. 2,794 out of 2,840 employees have availed of VSS at a total cost of Rs. 54.29 crore.

(d) Department of Public Enterprises is operating a Scheme for counseling, retraining and redeployment of rationalized employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings.

Persons working in textile industry

†4330.SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of state for TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an assessment of number of persons working in textile industry at the end of Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what is the number thereof and the number of persons working in mill sector, powerloom sector and handfoom sector, separately; and

(c) what is the average income of a labourer working in each of the above said sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) While formulating the 10th five year plan, it was assessed that the approximate number of persons working in Mill sector, powerloom sector and Handloom sector as on March, 2001 was as under:

S.No.	Sector	As on March 2001 (Estimated) (figures in million)
1.	Cotton/Man-made Fibre/Yarn TextHe.Mill Sector (including SSI spinning & exclusive weaving units)	1.07
2.	Man-made Fibre/Filament Yarn Industry (including texturising industry)	0.11
3.	Decentralised Powerloom Sector	4.15
4.	Handioom Sector	12.00

(c) No data is being maintained about average income.

† Original notice of the question w«is received in Hindi.